

From: Lee Sherrell
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/24/02 7:43am
Subject: AOL Bullshit ! Typical

The only reason that I am writing this letter is due to the fact that I can not stand AOL! I have used AOL before and found it to be nothing but a money-grubbing over rated search engine. There are many search engines out there that are a much better service and they are free! If the DoJ wants to go after a company that clearly looks after one thing and it is not the consumer, it's themselves! They overcharge for a service that is not as good as they like to project. The last time that I used AOL I downloaded their program onto my computer and used it for a while. I did not like the way it worked and quit the service, at least I thought I did. For months after I left the program they tried to charge me for services I never used and never would have used. I tried to get their program out of my computer and it took 8 months and several trips deep into my hard drive to find all of the little cookies and things embedded. I had to go to a computer specialist to finally get all of it removed from my HD. I have heard this same story from many of my friends and customers of my business.

I believe in the free enterprise system. I own my own company. I have always believed that a company has to EARN the profits that it goes after not have it given to them from the government. Honest, fair trade, consumer confidence, are words of the free enterprise system that generate a successful business. AOL does not do that. They are losing their customer confidence, honest business practices is not in their game plan and fair trade is a concept that never passes through the front doors at AOL. Any time a company tries to do a little competition with AOL they either buy them out or try to destroy them or as with the Microsoft affair, they hit the courts first with all of the legal crap to blind everyone to just what they are really up to. I think that the good ol paid off government officials need to really do the job they were elected into by the tax payers and start looking the other direction. Look right at AOL and the other companies like AOL. Leave Microsoft alone and let them get back to doing what they do- develop software!

I am one of a quite large group that remember what happened back when cable TV came over the horizon and tried to make it where there was not going to be any more free TV. Congress finally said that the tax payers had years invested in the system and they had a right to free TV. So free TV stayed around. We believe the same thing. The consumers (taxpayers) have invested years and many dollars in the phone lines, cable lines, telephone poles, those fancy little things floating around up there in space that help TV and Telephone and cell phones around the world. We are working for the need of free internet service, congress will need a little help to realize this as they needed help on the TV issue.

AOL makes very nice profits. They need to have a little good old fashioned competition. Learn how to cut back in the proper areas to make profit work in their favor. Not go out and use the government and the fools in the government to remove their competition so that they can have a government induced monopoly.

As a Tax Payer and consumer and small business owner, I am very sick and tired of these Billion dollar companies crying and whining about losing money because another company is just competing against them. These Billion dollar companies get the government to take away their competitors, so they can make more profits. They get millions from the government in subsidies to help them make more profits. They get the government to force the consumer into a corner so the consumer is forced to buy their products at very inflated prices.

All I am trying to get across to you in the DoJ is look the other way. Start looking at AOL and the others that forced the suit against Microsoft.

Thanks

A concerned and frustrated tax payer
Get more from the Web. FREE MSN Explorer download :
<http://explorer.msn.com>

